

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Atty Docket No. BR-036 PUS-01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER**

In re Application of: Schneider et al.

* Examiner: TBA

JAN 25 2007

Serial No.: 10/584,382

* Art Unit: 1618

Filing Date: 6/21/2006

*

For: ASSEMBLY OF GAS-FILLED MICROVESICLE WITH ACTIVE COMPONENT FOR CONTRAST IMAGING

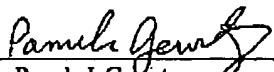
Certificate of Mailing and/or Transmission Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)(1)(i)(B)(ii)

I hereby certify that the following correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop: Missing Parts, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-8300, on the date indicated below:

1. Request for earlier filing date: 2 pp;
2. copy of Notice of Acceptance of Application Under 37 USC 371 and 37 CFR 1.495: 2 pp; and
3. Exhibit A: 9 pp

Date: January 25, 2007

Signature:



Pamela J. Gewirtz

Mail Stop: Missing Parts
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR EARLIER 371 (c) DATE

Sir:

Applicants' Attorney received the Notice of Acceptance of Application Under 35 U.S.C. 371 and 37 CFR 1.495 which issued 1/16/07, a copy of which is enclosed. The listing of the detailed items show all required documents were received on 6/21/06, with exception to the *Declaration* and *Power of Attorney*, which were received 9/21/06. Consequently, the 371 (c) date was assigned as September 21, 2006 rather than the earlier filing date of June 21, 2006, the date of national phase entry into the US.

Please be informed that a *Declaration* and *Power of Attorney* were in fact executed and submitted at the time of the filing of the PCT international application, copies of which are enclosed as Exhibit A. This properly executed and drafted international Declaration and Power of Attorney serve to fill the requirements of national phase entry into the US. As such, both documents should have been considered to be timely filed at the time of national phase entry into the US.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Please disregard the Declaration and Power of Attorney erroneously submitted with the Patent Office on 9/21/06. Applicants were instructed by the Patent Office to proceed with the filing of the documents. However, the international application's Declaration and Power of attorney should have been considered at the time of national phase entry into the US, and thus, the later executed Declaration and Power of Attorney is moot.

No fee is believed to be due with the filing of this request for earlier filing date. However, should there be any charge(s), the Director is hereby authorized to charge any fee(s) applicable under C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and/or 1.17, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-2168.

It is respectfully requested that a Filing Receipt identifying the 371 (c) date of June 21, 2006 issue based on the earlier submissions of a Declaration and Power of Attorney in the related international application, PCT/IB04/04233, filed 12/21/04. Applicant's attorney further requests that the USPTO records be updated to reflect the earlier filing date of this US national phase application.

Respectfully submitted,



Dated: January 24, 2007

M. Caragh Noone, Reg. No. 37,197

Bracco Research USA

305 College Road East
Princeton, NJ 08540

Tel: (609) 514-2454
Fax: (609) 514-2446

MCN/pjg

Page 2 of 2

01/25/2007 09:31

BRACCO RESEARCH USA INC → 915712738300

RECEIVED NO. 301
CENTRAL FAX CENTER
JAN 25 2007

**UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER NO.	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO.
10/584,382	Michel Schneider	BR-036 PUS 01
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.		PCT/IB04/04233
IA. FILING DATE		PRIORITY DATE
12/21/2004		12/22/2003

31834
BRACCO RESEARCH USA INC.
305- COLLEGE ROAD EAST
PRINCETON, NJ 08540

CONFIRMATION NO. 1354
371 ACCEPTANCE LETTER

 OC00000021988517

Date Mailed: 01/16/2007

NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATION UNDER 35 U.S.C 371 AND 37 CFR 1.495

The applicant is hereby advised that the United States Patent and Trademark Office in its capacity as a Designated / Elected Office (37 CFR 1.495), has determined that the above identified international application has met the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 371, and is ACCEPTED for national patentability examination in the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

The United States Application Number assigned to the application is shown above and the relevant dates are:

<u>09/21/2006</u>	<u>09/21/2006</u>
DATE OF RECEIPT OF 35 U.S.C. 371(c)(1), (c)(2) and (c)(4) REQUIREMENTS	DATE OF COMPLETION OF ALL 35 U.S.C. 371 REQUIREMENTS

A Filing Receipt (PTO-103X) will be issued for the present application in due course. **THE DATE APPEARING ON THE FILING RECEIPT AS THE "FILING DATE" IS THE DATE ON WHICH THE LAST OF THE 35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(1), (c)(2) and (c)(4) REQUIREMENTS HAS BEEN RECEIVED IN THE OFFICE. THIS DATE IS SHOWN ABOVE.** The filing date of the above identified application is the international filing date of the international application (Article 11(3) and 36 U.S.C. 363). Once the Filing Receipt has been received, send all correspondence to the Group Art Unit designated thereon.

The following items have been received:

- Copy of the International Application filed on 06/21/2006
- Copy of the International Search Report filed on 06/21/2006
- Preliminary Amendments filed on 06/21/2006
- Information Disclosure Statements filed on 06/21/2006
- Oath or Declaration filed on 09/21/2006
- Request for Immediate Examination filed on 06/21/2006
- U.S. Basic National Fees filed on 08/21/2006
- Assignment filed on 06/21/2006
- Priority Documents filed on 06/21/2006
- Power of Attorney filed on 09/21/2006
- Specification filed on 06/21/2006

- Claims filed on 06/21/2006
- Abstracts filed on 06/21/2006
- Drawings filed on 06/21/2006

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Applicant is reminded that any communications to the United States Patent and Trademark Office must be mailed to the address given in the heading and include the U.S. application no. shown above (37 CFR 1.5)

PATRICIA A BOOKER
Telephone: (703) 308-9140 EXT 204

PART 1 - ATTORNEY/APPLICANT COPY

FORM PCT/DO/EO/903 (371 Acceptance Notice)